



News Release

Coordinating Common & Cross-Cutting M&S for the U.S. Department of Defense

November 23, 2007

DoD CHANGES APPROACH TO MANAGING MODELING & SIMULATION

WASHINGTON (Modeling and Simulation Coordination Office, November 23, 2007) -- The re-designation of the Defense Modeling and Simulation Office (DMSO) as the Modeling and Simulation Coordination Office (M&S CO) in October 2006 was a visible sea change in the Department's revision of the way DoD manages M&S.

Mr. Jesse Citizen has served as the director of the M&S CO since August.

In recent years, it became evident to DoD senior leaders that the original approach for managing M&S at the Department level via DMSO and the Executive Council on M&S (EXCIMS) fell short in implementing the original Departmental M&S vision, policies, and plans established in the early 1990's. They asked where would we be today if the Department had fully implemented the original 1994 policy for managing M&S (DoD Directive 5000.59) and 1995 M&S Master Plan (DoD 5000.59-P). That Master Plan called for a viable, flexible common technical framework for M&S to facilitate interoperability and reuse so DoD users could quickly find and pull together models and simulations to create credible combinations of live, virtual, and constructive joint capability forces for acquisition decision-making, programmatic analysis, experimentation, operational planning, testing, training, mission rehearsal, doctrine development, etc. The senior leaders thought that given 13 years, the better part of a billion dollars counting just the DMSO budget from 1994 to 2007, and many more billions of dollars throughout the Department, we should be much further along on that vision than we are.

So, starting in 2004 internally to DMSO, and culminating in the fall of 2005 with an FY07 Program Review Issue Team and Program Decision Memorandum, the senior leadership directed a revision of the Department's approach to managing M&S.

Initiatives over the past two years include a newly published DoD Directive 5000.59 (August 8, 2007), replacing the three/four star level EXCIMS with a one/two-star level M&S Steering Committee (M&S SC) supported by an M&S Integrated Process Team (M&S IPT) and a repurposed DMSO simultaneously re-designated as the M&S CO. The original DMSO was established on June 22, 1991, by the then Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, to "serve as the DoD focal point to promote effective and efficient use of modeling and simulation"; this purpose moves up to the M&S SC with the M&S CO repurposed to helping the M&S SC and M&S IPT coordinate M&S activities throughout the Department of Defense. The M&S CO remains under the management of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)), but its new purpose came with a move from the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Science and Technology to the Office of the Director for Plans and Programs, both within the Office of Director for Defense Research and Engineering. Mr. Alan R. Shaffer is the Director for Plans and Programs.

The figure (Pg. 2) depicts the new M&S SC based management structure. The M&S SC is organized based on, and designed to support, major DoD Communities that are highly enabled by M&S. The M&S SC

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currently recognizes six such Communities: Acquisition, Analysis, Experimentation, Planning, Testing, and Training. The Military Services are recognized as the “industrial base” for most DoD M&S and participate at two levels, as members on the M&S SC and as members of the above Communities. The M&S SC has charged these Communities with developing a business plan that describes what M&S capabilities they have, what capabilities they need, what they can make available to the other Communities, what they need from the other Communities, and what actions they plan to take to close their capability gaps. The M&S SC has tasked the M&S IPT and M&S CO to support the Communities in creating their business plans and to lead the creation of a Common & Cross-Cutting M&S Business Plan that uses the Community business plans both as foundations and input.

The M&S SC’s goals are to enable improvements in the efficiencies, effectiveness, visibility, accessibility, commonality, reuse, and interoperability of M&S affecting the \$B spent annually by DoD on M&S. The premise of the M&S SC approach is that these goals are only possible via collaboration among, and implementation by, the Communities and Services.

